

# A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER'S SPEECH ACTS IN ROBERT LUKETIC'S *LEGALLY BLONDE*

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## ABSTRACT

This research aims at identifying and analyzing the main character's speech acts in Robert Luketic's *Legally Blonde* in external and internal courtroom. *Legally Blonde* is a comedy movie that shows a blonde girl's struggle, this movie is Elle Wood, to be equal and to be respected by others. This movie also portrays language in courtroom.

This research used a descriptive qualitative approach. The object of this research was the main character's speech acts in *Legally Blonde*. The data were in the form of utterances and the contexts that were analyzed based on Searle's classification of speech act and the setting of the movie. The researcher was the primary instrument in this research. The secondary instruments were data sheets. The data analyses of this research were based on the illocutionary acts in external and internal courtroom.

The results show that: first, there are four illocutionary acts in external courtroom. They are assertive, directive, commissive, and expressive. Declarative is not performed by Elle since it is used by a speaker who has a special institutional position, such as a president, judge, or priest. In external courtroom, the dominant act used by Elle is expressive. Expressive is an act in which the words state what the speaker feels. It implies that Elle often expresses her feeling and attitude. The dominant sentence used in external courtroom is declarative sentence. The fashion, law school, law and court registers are commonly used in this setting, for examples *low-viscosity rayon, outfit, fabric, law student, GPA, Harvard, LSAT, evidence, evidenciary support, mens rea, and alibi*. Second, in internal courtroom there are also four illocutionary acts. They are assertive, directive, commissive, and expressive. The absence of declarative is related to the position of the main character in the court. In internal courtroom, Elle uses more assertive than other illocutionary acts. It is a kind of speech acts that state what the speaker believes to be the case or not. It also implies that as a lawyer, she has to speak to the judge, a witness, or the jury, to bring out the facts that put her client's case in the most favorable light and makes arguments to show that her client should win in the court, by using approved legal procedures. The sentences commonly used in internal courtroom are declarative and interrogative sentences. The courtroom and fashion registers are used in this setting, for examples *Your Honour, Rule 3. 03 of Supreme Judicial Court, mens rea, a perm and perm maintenance*.